THE NINTH DAY.

7th March, 1924.

The Assembly met at 12 Noon on Friday, the 7th March, 1924.

Rao Bahadur R. Viraraghava Aiyengar B. A., B. L., Officer in charge of the Administration, presided.

Before beginning the proceedings the President said :— "As you are already aware, the Dewan is leaving Trivandrum to-day, and His Highness the Maha Raja has been graciously pleased to appoint me to act for him. I have thus been afforded another opportunity and the honor of presiding over the deliberations of the Assembly ; and I request you to extend to me your hearty co-operation in the conduct of this Assembly. (*Applause.*)"

102. Unwillingness of heads of Departments to appoint Ezhava boys and girls in the lower ranks of the service.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panikkar (Member, Nominated) said that, although Government had passed orders that Ezhavas should be encouraged in the matter of education and public service, they were deriving practically little advantage from those orders owing to the indifference of heads of departments. He made special reference to the Registration Department and complained about the non-entertainment of Ezhavas. Last year he submitted the applications of a number of Ezhava young men who had passed the 7th class, the 9th class and survey examinations. Some of those men had become over-aged for admission into the service. Considering the paucity of educated men in the community, he requested that Ezhavas might be exempted from the operations of the rule relating to age bar in the T. S. R.

The Member then stated that there was only one lady graduate, among Ezhavas, and requested that she might be employed in the Education Department.

Another complaint he had to make was that some Ezhava school-masters were being transferred to distant places on the suspicion that they were concerned in the anti-drink agitation. One such was one Kunjuraman, who had nothing to do with that agitation. He assured the Government that no Ezhava school-master had any hand in such agitation and prayed that all of them, and Kunjuraman in particular, might be retransferred to their original stations.

President's reply.—Mr. Padmanabha Panikkar, you first referred to the appointment of Ezhavas. Let me inform you that Government are doing the needful on that subject.

In regard to your representation about the Registration Department, it will be communicated to the Director of Registration, who will do all that is possible consistent with efficiency.

With regard to your representation concerning a teacher, who, you say, did not take any part in the anti-drink movement, but was away from the place, your representation is noted, and Government will take the necessary action on the matter.

103. Public Service and Tamilians.

Mr. Kanakku Matevan Pillai Perumal Pillai (Member, Agastisvaram taluk), while alluding to the representations made in the last session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly on the subject of recruitment to the public service and the Dewan's reply thereto, said that all big appointments in the State were held by officers belonging to either the Brahmin, Nair, or the Christian community. He suggested that recruitment to service from the different communities should be based on the status of those communities, their population, their education and the kist they paid to the Government.

Though many communities came under the category of Tamilians, the Member said that he confined his attention to the grievances of Nanjanad Vellalas

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